



U.S. Department of Justice

Federal Bureau of Investigation

Washington, D.C. 20535

June 24, 2022

MR. NOAH SCHEER

FOIPA Request No.: 1517954-000  
Subject: ISACSON, LEO LEOUS

Dear Mr. Scheer:

This is in response to your Freedom of Information/Privacy Acts (FOIPA) request. The FBI has completed its search for records subject to the FOIPA that are responsive to your request. Please see the paragraphs below for relevant information specific to your request as well as the enclosed FBI FOIPA Addendum for standard responses applicable to all requests.

Material consisting of 4 pages has been reviewed pursuant to Title 5, U.S. Code § 552/552a, and this material is being released to you in its entirety with no excisions of information.

Please refer to the enclosed FBI FOIPA Addendum for additional standard responses applicable to your request. "Part 1" of the Addendum includes standard responses that apply to all requests. "Part 2" includes additional standard responses that apply to all requests for records about yourself or any third party individuals. "Part 3" includes general information about FBI records that you may find useful. Also enclosed is our Explanation of Exemptions.

For questions regarding our determinations, visit the [www.fbi.gov/foia](http://www.fbi.gov/foia) website under "Contact Us." The FOIPA Request number listed above has been assigned to your request. Please use this number in all correspondence concerning your request.

If you are not satisfied with the Federal Bureau of Investigation's determination in response to this request, you may administratively appeal by writing to the Director, Office of Information Policy (OIP), United States Department of Justice, 441 G Street, NW, 6th Floor, Washington, D.C. 20530, or you may submit an appeal through OIP's FOIA STAR portal by creating an account following the instructions on OIP's website: <https://www.justice.gov/oip/submit-and-track-request-or-appeal>. Your appeal must be postmarked or electronically transmitted within ninety (90) days of the date of my response to your request. If you submit your appeal by mail, both the letter and the envelope should be clearly marked "Freedom of Information Act Appeal." Please cite the FOIPA Request Number assigned to your request so it may be easily identified.

You may seek dispute resolution services by contacting the Office of Government Information Services (OGIS). The contact information for OGIS is as follows: Office of Government Information Services, National Archives and Records Administration, 8601 Adelphi Road-OGIS, College Park, Maryland 20740-6001, e-mail at [ogis@nara.gov](mailto:ogis@nara.gov); telephone at 202-741-5770; toll free at 1-877-684-6448; or facsimile at 202-741-5769. Alternatively, you may contact the FBI's FOIA Public Liaison by emailing [foipaquestions@fbi.gov](mailto:foipaquestions@fbi.gov). If you submit your dispute resolution correspondence by email, the subject heading should clearly state "Dispute Resolution Services." Please also cite the FOIPA Request Number assigned to your request so it may be easily identified.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "M. G. Seidel", is positioned above the typed name.

Michael G. Seidel  
Section Chief  
Record/Information  
Dissemination Section  
Information Management Division

Enclosure

Based on the information you provided, we conducted a main and reference entity record search of the Central Records System (CRS) per our standard search policy. For more information about records searches and the standard search policy, see the enclosed FBI FOIPA Addendum General Information Section.

Enclosed are cross-references that are identifiable with the subject of your request. Cross-references are defined as mentions of the subject of your request in files to other individuals, organizations, events, or activities. In processing the cross-references, the pages considered for possible release included only those pages that mention the subject of your request and any additional pages showing the context in which the subject of your request was mentioned.

This is the final release of information responsive to your FOIPA request. This material is being provided to you at no charge.

Records that may have been responsive to your request were destroyed. Since this material could not be reviewed, it is not known if it was responsive to your request. Record retention and disposal is carried out under supervision of the National Archives and Records Administration (NARA), Title 44, United States Code, Section 3301 as implemented by Title 36, Code of Federal Regulations, Part 1228; Title 44, United States Code, Section 3310 as implemented by Title 36, Code of Federal Regulations, Part 1229.10.

A record that may be responsive to your Freedom of Information/Privacy Acts (FOIPA) request has been transferred to the National Archives and Records Administration (NARA). If you wish to review these records, submit a Freedom of Information Act (FOIA) request to NARA, Special Access and FOIA, 8601 Adelphi Road, Room 5500, College Park, MD 20740-6001. Please reference the file number 100-HQ-354510, 100-HQ-25869 Serial 163, 100-HQ-370898 Serial 12, 100-HQ-25869-A, 100-HQ-354000 Serial 22, 100-HQ-365848 Serial 209, 100-HQ-15252 Serial 41, 100-HQ-354510 Serials 3-4, 100-NY-8522 Serial 1313, and 100-NY-89967 Serial 126.

## FBI FOIPA Addendum

As referenced in our letter responding to your Freedom of Information/Privacy Acts (FOIPA) request, the FBI FOIPA Addendum provides information applicable to your request. Part 1 of the Addendum includes standard responses that apply to all requests. Part 2 includes standard responses that apply to requests for records about individuals to the extent your request seeks the listed information. Part 3 includes general information about FBI records, searches, and programs.

### Part 1: The standard responses below apply to all requests:

- (i) **5 U.S.C. § 552(c).** Congress excluded three categories of law enforcement and national security records from the requirements of the FOIPA [5 U.S.C. § 552(c)]. FBI responses are limited to those records subject to the requirements of the FOIPA. Additional information about the FBI and the FOIPA can be found on the [www.fbi.gov/foia](http://www.fbi.gov/foia) website.
- (ii) **Intelligence Records.** To the extent your request seeks records of intelligence sources, methods, or activities, the FBI can neither confirm nor deny the existence of records pursuant to FOIA exemptions (b)(1), (b)(3), and as applicable to requests for records about individuals, PA exemption (j)(2) [5 U.S.C. §§ 552/552a (b)(1), (b)(3), and (j)(2)]. The mere acknowledgment of the existence or nonexistence of such records is itself a classified fact protected by FOIA exemption (b)(1) and/or would reveal intelligence sources, methods, or activities protected by exemption (b)(3) [50 USC § 3024(i)(1)]. This is a standard response and should not be read to indicate that any such records do or do not exist.

### Part 2: The standard responses below apply to all requests for records on individuals:

- (i) **Requests for Records about any Individual—Watch Lists.** The FBI can neither confirm nor deny the existence of any individual's name on a watch list pursuant to FOIA exemption (b)(7)(E) and PA exemption (j)(2) [5 U.S.C. §§ 552/552a (b)(7)(E), (j)(2)]. This is a standard response and should not be read to indicate that watch list records do or do not exist.
- (ii) **Requests for Records about any Individual—Witness Security Program Records.** The FBI can neither confirm nor deny the existence of records which could identify any participant in the Witness Security Program pursuant to FOIA exemption (b)(3) and PA exemption (j)(2) [5 U.S.C. §§ 552/552a (b)(3), 18 U.S.C. 3521, and (j)(2)]. This is a standard response and should not be read to indicate that such records do or do not exist.
- (iii) **Requests for Records for Incarcerated Individuals.** The FBI can neither confirm nor deny the existence of records which could reasonably be expected to endanger the life or physical safety of any incarcerated individual pursuant to FOIA exemptions (b)(7)(E), (b)(7)(F), and PA exemption (j)(2) [5 U.S.C. §§ 552/552a (b)(7)(E), (b)(7)(F), and (j)(2)]. This is a standard response and should not be read to indicate that such records do or do not exist.

### Part 3: General Information:

- (i) **Record Searches and Standard Search Policy.** The Record/Information Dissemination Section (RIDS) searches for reasonably described records by searching systems, such as the Central Records System (CRS), or locations where responsive records would reasonably be found. The CRS is an extensive system of records consisting of applicant, investigative, intelligence, personnel, administrative, and general files compiled by the FBI per its law enforcement, intelligence, and administrative functions. The CRS spans the entire FBI organization, comprising records of FBI Headquarters, FBI Field Offices, and FBI Legal Attaché Offices (Legats) worldwide; Electronic Surveillance (ELSUR) records are included in the CRS. The standard search policy is a search for main entity records in the CRS. Unless specifically requested, a standard search does not include a search for reference entity records, administrative records of previous FOIPA requests, or civil litigation files.
  - a. *Main Entity Records* – created for individuals or non-individuals who are the subjects or the focus of an investigation
  - b. *Reference Entity Records*- created for individuals or non-individuals who are associated with a case but are not known subjects or the focus of an investigation
- (ii) **FBI Records.** Founded in 1908, the FBI carries out a dual law enforcement and national security mission. As part of this dual mission, the FBI creates and maintains records on various subjects; however, the FBI does not maintain records on every person, subject, or entity.
- (iii) **Requests for Criminal History Records or Rap Sheets.** The Criminal Justice Information Services (CJIS) Division provides Identity History Summary Checks – often referred to as a criminal history record or rap sheet. These criminal history records are not the same as material in an investigative “FBI file.” An Identity History Summary Check is a listing of information taken from fingerprint cards and documents submitted to the FBI in connection with arrests, federal employment, naturalization, or military service. For a fee, individuals can request a copy of their Identity History Summary Check. Forms and directions can be accessed at [www.fbi.gov/about-us/cjis/identity-history-summary-checks](http://www.fbi.gov/about-us/cjis/identity-history-summary-checks). Additionally, requests can be submitted electronically at [www.edo.cjis.gov](http://www.edo.cjis.gov). For additional information, please contact CJIS directly at (304) 625-5590.

## **EXPLANATION OF EXEMPTIONS**

### **SUBSECTIONS OF TITLE 5, UNITED STATES CODE, SECTION 552**

- (b)(1) (A) specifically authorized under criteria established by an Executive order to be kept secret in the interest of national defense or foreign policy and (B) are in fact properly classified to such Executive order;
- (b)(2) related solely to the internal personnel rules and practices of an agency;
- (b)(3) specifically exempted from disclosure by statute (other than section 552b of this title), provided that such statute (A) requires that the matters be withheld from the public in such a manner as to leave no discretion on issue, or (B) establishes particular criteria for withholding or refers to particular types of matters to be withheld;
- (b)(4) trade secrets and commercial or financial information obtained from a person and privileged or confidential;
- (b)(5) inter-agency or intra-agency memorandums or letters which would not be available by law to a party other than an agency in litigation with the agency;
- (b)(6) personnel and medical files and similar files the disclosure of which would constitute a clearly unwarranted invasion of personal privacy;
- (b)(7) records or information compiled for law enforcement purposes, but only to the extent that the production of such law enforcement records or information ( A ) could reasonably be expected to interfere with enforcement proceedings, ( B ) would deprive a person of a right to a fair trial or an impartial adjudication, ( C ) could reasonably be expected to constitute an unwarranted invasion of personal privacy, ( D ) could reasonably be expected to disclose the identity of confidential source, including a State, local, or foreign agency or authority or any private institution which furnished information on a confidential basis, and, in the case of record or information compiled by a criminal law enforcement authority in the course of a criminal investigation, or by an agency conducting a lawful national security intelligence investigation, information furnished by a confidential source, ( E ) would disclose techniques and procedures for law enforcement investigations or prosecutions, or would disclose guidelines for law enforcement investigations or prosecutions if such disclosure could reasonably be expected to risk circumvention of the law, or ( F ) could reasonably be expected to endanger the life or physical safety of any individual;
- (b)(8) contained in or related to examination, operating, or condition reports prepared by, on behalf of, or for the use of an agency responsible for the regulation or supervision of financial institutions; or
- (b)(9) geological and geophysical information and data, including maps, concerning wells.

### **SUBSECTIONS OF TITLE 5, UNITED STATES CODE, SECTION 552a**

- (d)(5) information compiled in reasonable anticipation of a civil action proceeding;
- (j)(2) material reporting investigative efforts pertaining to the enforcement of criminal law including efforts to prevent, control, or reduce crime or apprehend criminals;
- (k)(1) information which is currently and properly classified pursuant to an Executive order in the interest of the national defense or foreign policy, for example, information involving intelligence sources or methods;
- (k)(2) investigatory material compiled for law enforcement purposes, other than criminal, which did not result in loss of a right, benefit or privilege under Federal programs, or which would identify a source who furnished information pursuant to a promise that his/her identity would be held in confidence;
- (k)(3) material maintained in connection with providing protective services to the President of the United States or any other individual pursuant to the authority of Title 18, United States Code, Section 3056;
- (k)(4) required by statute to be maintained and used solely as statistical records;
- (k)(5) investigatory material compiled solely for the purpose of determining suitability, eligibility, or qualifications for Federal civilian employment or for access to classified information, the disclosure of which would reveal the identity of the person who furnished information pursuant to a promise that his/her identity would be held in confidence;
- (k)(6) testing or examination material used to determine individual qualifications for appointment or promotion in Federal Government service the release of which would compromise the testing or examination process;
- (k)(7) material used to determine potential for promotion in the armed services, the disclosure of which would reveal the identity of the person who furnished the material pursuant to a promise that his/her identity would be held in confidence.

Washington T-8, of known reliability, advised in March of 1948 that Congressman LEO ISACSON desired LAMBERTON's aid in a matter of the legality of an embargo on the shipment of arms to Palestine, and there appeared to be a question whether JOHN BORTON could be of assistance in handling the license phase of this matter. It was indicated that BORTON might be reluctant to do something which might undermine his good-will at the Commerce Department.

Upon recontact this informant could furnish no other information pertinent to the above. Washington T-8 declined to furnish a signed statement and will not testify before a loyalty hearing board.

According to an article in the June 25, 1948, issue of the Daily Worker, an East Coast Communist newspaper, Representative LEO ISACSON (American Labor Party - New York) left the previous day from La Guardia Airport for a two weeks visit to Israel. The article further stated that "The Laborite Congressman said at ALP Headquarters his trip to Palestine is 'particularly propitious' at this time. He declared pro-Arab, imperialist forces are anxious to keep the Israel crisis 'off' the front page during the coming months." He regards the truce 'part of the battle against Israel.' ISACSON said he will be back in this country in time for the New Party convention in Philadelphia."

Mr. WALTER FREEDMAN, Attorney, Washington Building, Washington, D. C., advised that in 1943 the Board of Economic Warfare and the Office of Lend Lease Administration were merged into the Foreign Economic Administration. At that time the appointee came to work under his supervision. Their particular functions in the Foreign Economic Administration were later taken into the Office of International Trade, Department of Commerce, and BORTON became his assistant. He advised further that in the latter part of December of 1945 when he, FREEDMAN, resigned from the Department of Commerce to enter private law practice, BORTON took over his job there. Subsequently, in 1947, BORTON left the Department of Commerce and became a partner in DOMINICK Associates, a firm which represented certain foreign governments in obtaining export licenses and also certain shipping companies in regard to cargo transportation. FREEDMAN advised that he, himself, in his private practice, had represented the Polish-American Supply Corporation of New York City, also known as the Polish Supply Mission, in the matter of obtaining export licenses. He said that the persons with whom he dealt were BERNARD E. MEYER,

# FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

Form No. 1

THIS CASE ORIGINATED AT

BUREAU

FILE NO.

122-15576

REPORT MADE AT Washington, D. C.	DATE WHEN MADE 11/7/50	PERIOD FOR WHICH MADE 10/9, 12, 17, 18, 27, 28, 31; 11/1, 2/50	REPORT MADE BY WILLIAM D. TEMPLE WDT:smf
TITLE JOHN CARTER BORTON, aka "Johnny," Deputy Chief - Appointee, Export Control Operations Division, Bureau of Foreign and Domestic Commerce, Office of Industry and Commerce, Department of Commerce, SYNOPSIS OF FACTS: Washington, D. C.			CHARACTER OF CASE LOYALTY OF GOVERNMENT EMPLOYEES
<p style="text-align: right; margin-right: 50px;"><i>Borton</i> <i>2-15-51</i></p> <p style="text-align: right; margin-right: 50px;"><i>W.D. Temple</i> <i>11-11-50</i></p> <p>JOHN CARTER BORTON, born January 12, 1901, Moorestown, New Jersey, received BS Degree Haverford College, Haverford, Pennsylvania, 1923. Employed by Department of Commerce in present position since August 17, 1950. Previous employment record set forth. Investigation requested by Department of Commerce in view of BORTON's connection with DOMINICK Associates, an organization which was believed to have served "Polish and perhaps other 'iron curtain' firms." BORTON was partner in that organization from August of 1947 to June of 1950. Investigation disclosed that principal clients served by DOMINICK Associates are US Shipping Companies, but that it also served the Polish Shipping Company, Gydnia American Line, and that BORTON represented the Polish-American Supply Company in regard to license applications. HARRY CLABAUGH LAMBERTON, another partner, reported by informants to be president of Washington Chapter, National Lawyers Guild, and allegedly was member of the Communist Party. Supervisors, acquaintances and neighbors believe BORTON to be man of integrity whose loyalty to US is above reproach.</p>			
APPROVED AND FORWARDED: <i>W.D. Temple</i>		SPECIAL AGENT IN CHARGE	
COPIES OF THIS REPORT 7 - Bureau 1 - Washington Field		<div style="border: 1px solid black; padding: 5px;">             NOV 8 1950              37  <i>W.D. Temple</i> </div> <div style="border: 1px solid black; padding: 5px; margin-top: 5px;">             122-15576-1              12-15-50           </div>	

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62 JAN 22 1951

GOVERNMENT PRINTING OFFICE 16-50255-1

On April 15, 1948 SA's Edward R. Tully and James J. McCarthy advised that approximately 1,400 persons left New York City en route to Washington, D. C. to carry out the "March on Washington", being conducted by the United Committee. Among the leaders of the delegation, the following individuals were observed:

MOSES MILLER, Secretary of the National Jewish Commission,  
Communist Party, USA  
WILLIAM ZEVNER, Organization Director, American Jewish  
Labor Council  
ARTHUR SCHUTZER, Co-chairman of the United Committee to  
Save the Jewish State and the United Nations

The "New York World Telegram" of April 15, 1948 carried an article on the "March", which stated that the National Jewish Congress had turned down an invitation to join the march. The article further stated that the Jewish war veterans of the United States had denounced the demonstration as "not primarily concerned with the interests of the United States or the welfare or security of the Jewish people in Palestine".

On April 16, 1948, the "New York Post" and "Home News" carried an article on the march on Washington entitled, "Zion Protest Becomes Rally for Wallace". The article was written by OLIVER PILAT, a Washington Correspondent of the "Post". The article indicated that the 2,000 demonstrators, mostly from New York City, "flowed through Congressional corridors, harassing friend and foe alike, picketed the White House, the Democratic and Republican National Committee Headquarters, and ended up with a mass meeting which turned into a Wallace for President Rally.

American Committee of Jewish Writers,  
Artists, and Scientists

On May 15, 1948 the American Committee of Jewish Writers, Artists, and Scientists sponsored a mass meeting at the Polo Grounds in New York City entitled, "Salute to the Jewish State", which was attended by some 35,000 people. The speakers included PAUL MANN, Jewish actor; B. Z. GOLDBERG, Chairman of the American Committee; BARTLEY C. CRUM, Publisher of "New York Star"; ARTHUR OSMAN, Representative of American Jewish Labor Council; Chairman WEISSGOLD, Representative of the Zionist Socialist Organization in America; YAKOV RIFTIN, member of the High Council of Haganah; Senator GIEN TAYLOR; ALBERT E. KAHN, President of the Jewish People's Fraternal Order; PAUL ROBESON, negro singer; and Congressman LEO ISACSON.

## FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

Form No. 1

THIS CASE ORIGINATED AT

NEW YORK

FILE NO.

NY 100-26603 hjr

REPORT MADE AT  NEW YORK	DATE WHEN MADE  9-30-48	PERIOD FOR WHICH MADE  9/1-17/48	REPORT MADE BY  RUSSELL S. GARNER
TITLE  COMMUNIST PARTY - USA, DISTRICT #2, NEW YORK DIVISION			CHARACTER OF CASE  INTERNAL SECURITY - C

## SYNOPSIS OF FACTS:

Quarterly Period - April 1 to June 30, 1948

Regional system set up in Manhattan completed by CP. NY State CP membership currently 26,890. District #2's quota to be raised to defeat Mundt-Nixon Bill totals \$300,000. Security measures remain in force and confidential mailing addresses continue to be used. Many Communist members of the National Maritime Union dropped and expelled in last three years because of disruptive tactics and factionalism. Issue concerning seating of SIMON W. GERSON as late PETER V. CACCHIONE'S successor in New York City Council from Brooklyn, continues unresolved. Assistance being given by CP in NYC to re-elect Congressman VITO MARCANTONIO and insure success of HENRY WALLACE and Third Party Movement. CP in NYC campaigned against subway fare raise to 10¢. District #2 demanded NY State Senate act on civil rights legislation. Communist veterans worked to prevent passage of Mundt-Nixon Bill. Bitter struggle waged for control of Council on African Affairs between non-Communist faction, led by MAY YERGAN, and Communist group headed by PAUL ROBESON, DOXEY WILKERSON and W. A. HUNTON. District #2 opposed to non-violence civil disobedience program protesting segregation in Armed Forces. District #2 indicates that independent, non-Party, Marxist-Leninist youth organization will be formed after 1948 elections. Anti-censorship Committee organized in early Spring to combat various legislative and Congressional un-American investigative committees. Efforts being made by CP to organize farmers for WALLACE. District #2 endeavoring to pursue program of concentration in nationality group work. Extensive program of schools and classes carried out by District #2 from September, 1945 through May, 1948.

- P -

100-54651-254

APPROVED AND FORWARDED:	SPECIAL AGENT IN CHARGE	DO NOT WRITE IN THESE SPACES	
COPIES OF THIS REPORT  6 - Bureau 1 - Albany (Info) 1 - Buffalo (Info) 1 - Newark (Info) 1 - Col. C.M. Adams, G-2, 1st Army (Cont'd.)		F. B. I.	
		SEP 30 1948	
		N. Y. C.	
		ROUTED TO FILE	